

1. **C-2024-091**
Correspondence received February 27, 2024 from the Wainfleet Historical Society respecting a proposal to share costs of permanent planting at the cenotaph.
2. **C-2024-092**
Correspondence dated March 8, 2024 from the Town of Hanover to the Municipality of Wawa respecting a resolution of support for their correspondence regarding Support for Bill C-310 to amend the Income Tax Act to increase the tax credits for volunteer firefighting and search and rescue services.
3. **C-2024-093**
Correspondence dated March 8, 2024 from the Town of Cobourg respecting a call for support to amend the Ontario Heritage Act with respect to removal of listed properties from municipal heritage registers.
4. **C-2024-094**
Correspondence dated February 23, 2024 from the Township of Amaranth to the Hon. Doug Ford, Premier of Ontario and Hon. Prabmeet Sarkaria, Minister of Transportation respecting a request to pause advancement on proposed Highway 413 and redirect the funds allocated to it.
5. **C-2024-095**
Correspondence dated March 11, 2024 from the Township of McMurrich/Monteith respecting a resolution of support for the Municipality of St. Charles correspondence regarding a fully funded Municipal Equipment Operator Course.
6. **C-2024-096**
Correspondence dated March 11, 2024 from the Town of Cobourg to the Honourable Doug Ford, Premier of Ontario respecting a resolution of support for the Count of Renfrew correspondence regarding the affordability of water and wastewater systems in rural and small urban municipalities.
7. **C-2024-097**
Correspondence received March 11, 2024 from the Niagara SPCA respecting 2024 monthly statistics.
8. **C-2024-098**
Correspondence received March 12, 2024 from Besten Contracting respecting a request for exemption to Section 7.1 of BL010-2018 (reduced load restriction).
9. **C-2024-099**
Correspondence dated February 26, 2024 from the Township of Limerick to The Honourable Doug Ford, Premier of Ontario respecting a resolution of support for the Municipality of Calvin correspondence regarding the National Firefighting Strategy.

10. **C-2024-100**
Correspondence dated February 26, 2024 from the Township of Limerick to The Honorable Doug Ford, Premier of Ontario respecting a resolution of support for the Town of Hanover correspondence regarding a Social and Economic Prosperity Review.
11. **C-2024-101**
Correspondence dated March 13, 2024 from the Town of Kearny to The Honorable Todd McCarthy, Minister of Public and Business Service Delivery, MPP Graydon Smith and the Bereavement Authority of Ontario respecting a resolution of support for the Townships of Puslinch, Tay and Clearview correspondence pieces regarding Cemetery Administration Management.
12. **C-2024-102**
Correspondence dated March 12, 2024 from the Township of Amaranth to The Hon. Paul Calandra, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing respecting a call for equal Operational Budget Funding to all Ontario municipalities.
13. **C-2024-103**
Correspondence dated March 13, 2024 from the Township of Limerick to The Honorable Doug Ford, Premier of Ontario respecting a resolution of support for the Town of Hanover correspondence regarding a Social and Economic Prosperity Review.
14. **C-2024-104**
Correspondence dated March 14, 2024 from the Township of Puslinch to various recipients respecting a resolution of support for the Municipality of Powassan correspondence regarding Association of Ontario Roads Supervisors Training.
15. **C-2024-105**
Correspondence dated March 14, 2024 from the Town of Bracebridge respecting a resolution of support Regarding Request to the Province of Ontario or New Provincial-Municipal Fiscal Framework.



WAINFLEET HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Received February 27, 2024
C-2024-091

82616 Boyle Road,
R.R. 1 Fenwick, ON, L0S 1C0
February 23, 2024

Mayor Brian Grant and Wainfleet Council,
31940 ON-3, Wainfleet, L0S 1V0

Dear Mayor Grant and Council,

At a recent meeting of the Wainfleet Historical Society the members raised the issue of permanent plantings at the Cenotaph. The Society is offering to share the cost of this with the Township.

One member of the Society is a professional gardener. He is willing to design the garden, shop for the plants, and then plant them. As he has done cenotaph planting before, he is aware of the need for a low maintenance arrangement as well as the significance of the plants and their colours that would be used in the design. I have discussed this with Richard Nan who showed enthusiasm for the project. When our gardener has prepared a drawing and an estimate of the cost, I can submit that to you.

Is Wainfleet Council willing to share the cost of permanent planting at the Cenotaph with the Wainfleet Historical Society? I look forward to your reply.

Respectfully yours,

Janet Hodgkins
President, Wainfleet Historical Society

Subject: Permanent planting at the Cenotaph

From: Janet Hodgkins <wainfleethistoricalociety@gmail.com>

Date: March 11, 2024 at 5:41:24 PM EDT

To: Sherri Van Vliet <SVanVliet@wainfleet.ca>

Subject: Permanent planting at the Cenotaph

Hello Councillor Van Vliet,

As President of the Wainfleet Historical Society, I have written to the Mayor and Council with a proposal for permanent planting at the Cenotaph. We are offering to share costs of such planting, and to provide the services of one of our members who is a professional gardener.

This member has prepared a design for the garden. He is willing to shop for the plants and to do the actual planting himself. He owns a gardening business, has taken courses at the University of Guelph, has worked in city parks, has contacted The Legion to discuss the symbolism and colours of certain plants suitable for cenotaphs, and has done cenotaph plantings. His design will be low maintenance, once established.

He is preparing a design sketch of the garden plan and an estimate of the costs.

The gardener and I have been in touch with Richard Nan who is enthusiastic about the garden design.

Do you know if my letter will be on the agenda for the March 19 council meeting? Would you be willing to support our proposal? Should the gardener and I attend the council meeting?

I would be very willing to have a phone conversation with you about this.

I look forward to hearing from you.

Janet Hodgkins
President, Wainfleet Historical Society
905-386-6978

Origin: <https://www.wainfleet.ca/en/town-hall/council.aspx>

This email was sent to you by Janet Hodgkins<wainfleethistoricalociety@gmail.com> through <https://www.wainfleet.ca>.

Subject: RE: Planting at the Cenotaph

From: Janet Hodgkins <janet.hodgkins@gmail.com>

Sent: March 11, 2024 3:10 PM

To: Richard Nan <RNan@wainfleet.ca>

Subject: Planting at the Cenotaph

Hello Richard,

In February I sent a letter to the Mayor and Council offering for the Wainfleet Historical Society to share costs of permanent planting at the Cenotaph.

Since then Mike the gardener has examined the bed at the cenotaph, measured, and plotted how many plants would be required and where to locate them. He is preparing a drawing. He has shown me the preliminary sketch. He is also determining an estimate of the costs, I believe. Has he been in touch with you about it?

Attached are some photos that Mike took. They show the proposed placement of the cedars, indicated by the stakes, the Karl Foerster grass by the black pots, and the Autumn Joy sedum by the white pots. .

Do you know if this issue will be on the agenda for the next Council meeting on March 19? Would you make a recommendation about it? Should Mike and I attend the Council meeting?

As planting season is soon approaching, the Historical Society is eager to move on this proposal. I appreciate any assistance or advice that you can offer.

Janet Hodgkins
Wainfleet Historical Society
905-386-6978

Sent from my iPad





March 8, 2024

Received March 8, 2024
C-2024-092

Municipality of Wawa
Office of the Clerk
Municipal Office
40 Broadway Avenue
PO Box 500
Wawa, ON P0S 1K0

Email: slord@swawa.cc**Re: Support Bill C-310 and Enact Amendments to Subsections 118.06 (2) and 118.07 (2) of the Income Tax Act**

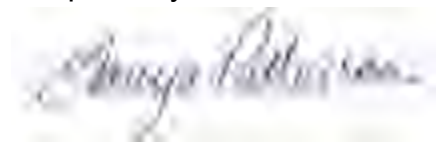
Further to correspondence received from the Municipality Wawa calling on the Government of Canada to support Bill C-310 and enact amendments to subsections 118.06 (2) and 118.07 (2) of the Income Tax, the Council of the Town of Hanover passed the following resolution;

Moved by COUNCILLOR KOEBEL | Seconded by COUNCILLOR SAKAL

That the Council of the Town of Hanover support the recommendation of the Municipality of Wawa calling upon the Government of Canada to support Bill C-310 and enact amendments to subsections 118.06 (2) and 118.07 (2) of the Income Tax Act in order to increase the amount of the tax credits for volunteer firefighting and search and rescue volunteer services from \$3,000 to \$10,000.

CARRIED

Respectfully,



Tanya Patterson
Deputy Clerk

cc: Honourable Alex Ruff, MP Bruce-Grey-Owen Sound
Association of Fire Chiefs of Ontario
The Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO)
All Ontario Municipalities





The Corporation of the Municipality of Wawa

REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING

RESOLUTION

Tuesday, November 7, 2023

Resolution # RC23265	Meeting Order: 10
Moved by: 	Seconded by: 

WHEREAS Canada has 90,000 volunteer firefighters who provide fire and all hazard emergency services to their communities; in addition, approximately 8,000 essential search and rescue volunteers respond to thousands of incidents every year; and

WHEREAS many of these individuals receive some form of pay on call, an honorarium, or are given some funding to cover expenses, but they do not draw a living wage from firefighting; and;

WHEREAS without volunteer firefighters and search and rescue volunteers, thousands of communities in Canada would have no fire and emergency response coverage; and;

WHEREAS in 2013, the federal government initiated a tax credit recognizing these individuals, and calling on the federal government to increase this tax credit from \$3,000 to \$10,000; and;

WHEREAS volunteer firefighters account for 71% of Canada's total firefighting essential first responders;

- The tax code of Canada currently allows volunteer firefighters and search and rescue volunteers to claim a \$3,000 tax credit if 200 hours of volunteer services were completed in a calendar year;
- This works out to a mere \$450 per year, which we allow these essential volunteers to keep of their own income from their regular jobs, \$2.25 an hour;
- If they volunteer more than 200 hours, which many do, this tax credit becomes even less;
- These essential volunteers not only put their lives on the line and give their time, training and efforts to Canadians, but they also allow cities and municipalities to keep property taxes lower than if paid services were required;

p.2...



The Corporation of the Municipality of Wawa

REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING

RESOLUTION

- It would also help retain these volunteers in a time when volunteerism is decreasing.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Council of the Corporation of the Municipality of Wawa call upon the Government of Canada to support Bill C-310 and enact amendments to subsections 118.06 (2) and 118.07 (2) of the Income Tax Act in order to increase the amount of the tax credits for volunteer firefighting and search and rescue volunteer services from \$3,000 to \$10,000; and;

FURTHERMORE THAT a copy of the resolution be shared with the Association of Fire Chiefs of Ontario, Algoma Mutual Aid Association, Association of Municipalities of Ontario and all Ontario municipalities.

RESOLUTION RESULT		RECORDED VOTE		
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	CARRIED	MAYOR AND COUNCIL	YES	NO
<input type="checkbox"/>	DEFEATED	Mitch Hatfield		
<input type="checkbox"/>	TABLED	Cathy Cannon		
<input type="checkbox"/>	RECORDED VOTE (SEE RIGHT)	Melanie Pilon		
<input type="checkbox"/>	PECUNIARY INTEREST DECLARED	Jim Hoffmann		
<input type="checkbox"/>	WITHDRAWN	Joseph Opato		

Disclosure of Pecuniary Interest and the general nature thereof.

- ☐ Disclosed the pecuniary interest and general name thereof and abstained from the discussion, vote and influence.

Clerk: _____

MAYOR – MELANIE PILON	CLERK – MAURY O'NEILL



The Corporation of the Town of Cobourg

Received March 8, 2024
C-2024-093

Resolution

All Ontario Municipalities

Sent via email

Town of Cobourg
55 King Street West,
Cobourg, ON, K9A 2M2
clerk@cobourg.ca
Town of Cobourg

March 8, 2024

RE: Correspondence from the Architectural Conservancy Ontario regarding Proposed Amendment to Subsection 27(16) of the Ontario Heritage Act with respect to the removal of listed (non-designated) properties from municipal heritage registers

Please be advised that the Town of Cobourg Council, at its meeting held on February 28, 2024, passed the following resolution:

WHEREAS subsection 27(16) of the Ontario Heritage Act stipulates that any non-designated heritage property listed on the municipal register of properties as of December 31, 2022 shall be removed from the municipal register on or before January 1, 2025, if the council of the municipality does not give a notice of intention to designate the property under subsection 29(1) of the Ontario Heritage Act on or before January 1, 2025; and

WHEREAS since January 1, 2023, municipal staff and members of the municipal heritage committee in the Town of Cobourg have been diligently working to: review the municipal heritage register; research the heritage value and interest of listed (non-designated) properties; review and research the heritage value and interest of non-designated properties; contact owners of such properties; determine which properties should potentially be designated in accordance with the provisions of Section 29 of the Ontario Heritage Act; and take all required steps to designate such properties; and

WHEREAS the above-noted work involving 213 listed properties in the Town of Cobourg is extremely time-consuming and cannot be completed by December 31, 2024 with the limited municipal resources available.



The Corporation of the Town of Cobourg

Resolution

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Council of the Town of Cobourg authorize the Mayor to promptly send a letter to Doug Ford, Premier of Ontario, and Michael Ford, Minister of Citizenship and Multiculturalism, requesting that Subsection 27(16) of the Ontario Heritage Act be amended to extend the above-noted deadline for five years from January 1, 2025 to January 1, 2030; and

FURTHER THAT Council direct staff to forward this resolution to all 443 municipalities in Ontario seeking support of the ACO correspondence.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Kristina Lepik".

Kristina Lepik
Deputy Clerk/Manager, Legislative Services



Received March 8, 2024
C-2024-094

374028 6TH LINE • AMARANTH ON • L9W 0M6

February 23, 2024

Hon. Doug Ford, Premier of Ontario
Hon. Prabmeet Sarkaria, Minister of Transportation

Sent by email to: Premier@ontario.ca; Minister.mto@ontario.ca

Re: Resolution on Highway 413

At its regular meeting of Council held on February 21, 2024, the Township of Amaranth Council passed the following resolution:

Resolution #: 3

Moved by: G Little

Seconded by: A. Stirk

Whereas the Township of Amaranth recognizes the importance for efficient and effective transportation networks in the Province and;

Whereas, the Province has committed to getting 1.5 millions home built within the next 10 years or less.

BE IT RESOLVED THAT:

The Township of Amaranth request that the Province of Ontario pause advancement on proposed highway 413 and redirect the approximate \$8 billion cost for highway 413 to support municipal infrastructure costs and housing construction initiatives and;

Further be it resolved that at least 50% of those funds be allocated for small urban and rural Ontario with populations less than 50,000. **CARRIED**

Please do not hesitate to contact the office if you require any further information on this matter.

Yours truly,

Nicole Martin, Dipl. M.A.
CAO/Clerk

Copy: Hon. Sylvia Jones, MPP Dufferin-Caledon sylvia.jones@pc.ola.org
Hon. Kinga Surma, MPP Etobicoke Centre kinga.surmaco@pc.ola.org
Dufferin County Municipalities

Subject: RE: MSC Res. 2024-043 - Potential Municipal Equipment Operator Course

From: Clerk <clerk@mcmurrichmonteith.com>

Sent: March 11, 2024 11:34 AM

To: Tammy Godden <clerk@stcharlesontario.ca>; David.Piccini@pc.ola.org; resolutions@amo.on.ca; JVanthof-q@ndp.on.ca; admin@aors.on.ca

Subject: RE: MSC Res. 2024-043 - Potential Municipal Equipment Operator Course

Good morning.

Council has passed a resolution, shown below, in support of the Municipality of St. Charles relating to a fully funded Municipal Equipment Operator Course.

Resolution: 2024-89

Moved by: Dan O'Halloran

Seconded by: Terry Currie

Be It Resolved that Council supports Resolution 2024=043 from Municipality of St. Charles calling on the Province of Ontario's Ministry of Labour, Training, Immigration and Skilled Trades to fully fund the Municipal Equipment Operator Course in 2024 through the Skills Development Fund. Carried

Best regards,

Cheryl Marshall,

Clerk/Treasurer

Township of McMurrich/Monteith

P.O. Box 70, 31 William Street

Sprucedale, Ontario P0A 1Y0

Phone: 705-685-7901 Fax: 705-685-7393

www.mcmurrichmonteith.com

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The Corporation of the Town of Cobourg

Received March 11, 2024
C-2024-096

Resolution

Honourable Doug Ford, Premier of Ontario
Premier of Ontario
Legislative Building
Queen's Park
Toronto ON M7A 1A1

Town of Cobourg
55 King Street West,
Cobourg, ON, K9A 2M2
clerk@cobourg.ca
Town of Cobourg

Delivered via email
doug.fordco@pc.ola.org
premier@ontario.ca

March 11, 2024

RE: Correspondence from the County of Renfrew regarding the affordability of water and wastewater systems in rural and small urban municipalities

Please be advised that the Town of Cobourg Council, at its meeting held on February 28, 2024, passed the following resolution:

THAT Council support the correspondence from the County of Renfrew regarding the affordability of water and wastewater systems in rural and small urban municipalities; and

FURTHER THAT Council advocate to the Provincial and Federal levels of government to make them aware that rural and small urban water and wastewater systems are financially unsustainable; and

FURTHER THAT Council advocate to the Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO), the Rural Ontario Municipalities Association (ROMA) and the Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM) to examine if the unaffordability of water and wastewater system operational costs is systemic provincially and nationally; and

FURTHER THAT Council direct Staff to forward a copy of this resolution to the Honourable Doug Ford, Premier of Ontario; the Honourable Kinga Surma, Minister of Infrastructure (Ontario); the Honourable Dominic LeBlanc, Minister of Intergovernmental Affairs, Infrastructure and Communities (Canada); the Honourable Paul Calandra, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing; the Honourable Andrea Khanjin, Minister of the Environment, Conservation and Parks (Ontario); Philip Lawrence, MP, Northumberland-Peterborough South; David Piccini, MPP,



The Corporation of the Town of Cobourg

Resolution

Northumberland-Peterborough South; AMO; ROMA; FCM; and all
Municipalities in Ontario.

Sincerely,

Kristina Lepik
Deputy Clerk/Manager, Legislative Services

cc. the Honourable Kinga Surma, Minister of Infrastructure (Ontario);
the Honourable Dominic LeBlanc, Minister of Intergovernmental Affairs, Infrastructure and
Communities (Canada);
the Honourable Paul Calandra, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing;
the Honourable Andrea Khanjin, Minister of the Environment, Conservation and Parks
(Ontario);
Philip Lawrence, MP, Northumberland-Peterborough South;
David Piccini, MPP, Northumberland-Peterborough South;
AMO;
ROMA;
FCM; and
all Ontario Municipalities

[illegible]



I would like to extend a thank you for taking the time to review my proposed temporary change surrounding the half load road bylaws for the location of Marr Road Off highway #3.

I am constructing this letter with the hopes to discuss a onetime change to amend the longevity of the half load road bylaw as they extend until April 30th. Myself and fellow businesses located in Wainfleet are understanding of the importance of these across the region and other municipalities as well as the justification surrounding these bylaws to protect our roadways. This is why I am writing this letter to hopefully explain briefly, our hopes for this temporary change. Our winter this year was drastically warmer than most we have seen, and combined with inflation and the need to begin working to keep employees paid we are seeking approval to be able to run the concrete trucks from the plant fully loaded to jobs being completed within the municipality of Wainfleet as early as March 25th 2024. Due to the high temps, frost is not present this current year and would not be posing a risk to the overall integrity of our roadways. Unfortunately, the cost to the customer is astronomical as each truck that is only loaded at half capacity or less costs an additional 400\$ per truck to complete the job. With us all finding the need to sharpen our pencils this year to accommodate the ever-rising cost of living this change would be whole heartedly beneficial to numerous Wainfleet based businesses waiting to complete their parts on the jobs after foundations are completed. We again would like to extend a gracious thank you in your time reviewing our letter.

Kindly,
Steven Den Besten



Received March 12, 2024
C-2024-099

The Honorable Doug Ford
Premier of Ontario
Legislative Building, Queen's Park
Toronto, ON M7A 1A1

DELIVERED VIA EMAIL

February 26, 2024

RE: National Fire Fighting Strategy

Dear Premier Ford,

Please be advised that at the Regular Council Meeting of February 26, 2024, the Township of Limerick Council passed the following motion, supporting the resolution from the Council of the Municipality of Calvin regarding a review of the National Fire Fighting Strategy.

Motion024-2024

Moved by Councillor Jan MacKillican

Seconded by Councillor Glenn Locke

That Council direct staff to issue a letter of support for the National Fire Fighting Strategy.

Carried

If you have any questions regarding the above motion, please do not hesitate to contact me by phone or email at clerk@township.limerick.on.ca.

Best Regards,

Victoria Tisdale
Clerk-Treasurer
Township of Limerick

cc.

Ric Bresee – MPP, Hastings-Lennox and Addington
All Ontario Municipalities

Victoria Tisdale, Clerk Treasurer
clerk@township.limerick.on.ca
Telephone: 613-474-2863
Fax: 613-474-0478

EST. 1792
Hastings
COUNTY

Nicole Ilcio, Deputy Clerk Treasurer
assistant@township.limerick.on.ca
Telephone: 613-474-2863
Fax: 613-474-0478



Corporation of the Municipality of Calvin Council Resolution

Date: January 30, 2024

Resolution Number: 2024-31

Moved By: Councillor Moreton

Seconded By: Councillor Manson

Background: Before Calvin township became a township, it was burned by numerous forest fires. This was before the time of fire towers, water bombers, and municipal fire departments. A 1881 report from Lawrence Tallan, Provincial Land surveyor, states: *"The township of Calvin has been traversed by repeated and severe fires – so well have the flames done their work that with the exception of an insignificant portion, scarcely a vestige of the original timber remains."*

History has a way of repeating itself, and now rural municipalities and remote areas need more than ever to be prepared to respond to forest fires. Invasive pests like the emerald ash borer and the spruce bud worm are killing large numbers of trees, leaving copious amounts of dry kindling in our forests just waiting for a careless human or a lightning strike. Our forests are choked with deadfall and forest fires are becoming increasingly difficult to control. Add to this the effects of rising temperatures and drier seasons, or climate change, and we could be facing increasingly disastrous forest fires. This is not the time to be caught short with limited forest fire-fighting resources.

Jordan Omstead of the Canadian Press recently wrote: "But as Canada's water bombers age – and wildfire seasons are expected to intensify – some wildland

firefighters and emergency preparedness experts say the country needs to prop up its fleet of firefighting aircraft, even though several provinces are playing down concerns about capacity." He quotes Eric Davidson, president of the Ontario Professional Association of Wildland Firefighters, "We're really starting to see the effect of the aging fleet."

The article further states the John Gradek, lecturer at McGill University estimates that almost half of the larger water bombers used to fight Canadian forest fires are nearing the end of their service life.

However, a Canadian company making a large skimmer-style water bomber is backed up with orders from European countries until the end of the decade.

Ontario has its own fleet of aircraft. They have 20 fixed-wing aircraft which includes 9 CL215 and CL415 water bombers that are 24 years old on average. The remaining 11 aircraft are an average of 54 years old. Melissa Candelaria, a spokesperson for Minister Graydon Smith says the MNR can handle Ontario fires with these aircraft, but Jennifer Kamau, communications manager for the Canada Interagency Forest Fire Centre, CIFFC, noted that other provinces contract out firebombers and last year there was a strain in Canada to get the resources to areas in need because there were so many fires across the country at the same time and very few aircraft available.

Peter Zimonjic of the CBC quoted the Canadian Association of Fire Chiefs (CAFC) President Ken McMullen, "It's not often that the fire chiefs sound the alarm. We are very concerned about this impending crisis that the summer of 2024 and beyond is going to bring our sector."

In 2023 we all smelled the smoke and saw the sky turn brown. Buildings can be replaced, but lives cannot. And once an area is burned it takes more than a lifetime for it to return to its original state.

WHEREAS Forest fires are a very real threat to rural municipalities.

AND WHEREAS smoke from forest fires put people's health at risk. This is especially true of children and the elderly. The David Suzuki Foundation reports that wildfires kill many thousands of people per year and most of the deaths are from smoke inhalation.

AND WHEREAS forest fires are a very real danger to the climate and according to The Guardian, in 2023 they emitted three times as much carbon as the entire carbon footprint of Canada.

AND WHEREAS according to the John Crace interview in The Guardian with William Kurz, a retired scientist with Natural Resources Canada, around two billion tonnes of carbon have been released into the atmosphere from forest fires in 2023.

AND WHEREAS carbon emissions from forest fires are not counted against Canada's Paris agreement commitments, according to Kurz, but they far exceeded all of the emissions tied to Canada's economy (670 mega tonnes, or 0.67 billion tonnes, according to Environment and Climate Change Canada).

AND WHEREAS that standing healthy forest serves as a carbon sink, drawing in carbon, but once destroyed by fire, even though second growth takes its place, it is much less effective for many decades.

AND WHEREAS the federal government owns no water bombers and assists the provinces through the CIFFC, Canadian Interagency Forest Fire Centre, a spokesperson with CIFFC says that last year there were too many requests and not enough inventory to meet the needs of the country.

AND WHEREAS as reported by De Havilland Canada who manufacture the Canadian made water bomber, they have contracts with European countries for the next 22 of its new DHC-515 planes, which will take until 2029 or 2030 to complete and there will be very little production available to replace the aging water bombers in Ontario and the rest of Canada.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the council of the Corporation of Calvin Township urges and encourages the Federal Government to commit additional funds for cost sharing of provincial firefighting and to consider the development of a national strategy of firefighting. Furthermore, we urge the federal government to consider the measures necessary for acquiring a national fleet of Canadian-made waterbombers, with home bases strategically located to best serve and respond to the needs of rural communities, and a national fire administration to better coordinate and manage efforts across the country. We also encourage the introduction of a program similar to the Joint Emergency Preparedness Program (JEPP) which was ended in 2013.

And we encourage Minister Graydon Smith to step up the on-the-ground firefighting capability and water bomber acquisitions in Ontario.

AND THAT this resolution be forwarded to The Right Honourable Justin Trudeau, Prime Minister of Canada, The Honourable Bill Blair, Minister of National Defence, The Honourable Doug Ford, Premier of Ontario, The Honourable Graydon Smith, Minister of Natural Resources and Forestry of Ontario, The Honourable Vic Fideli, Minister of Economic Development Ontario, the Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FMC) and the Association of Municipalities Ontario (AMO).

AND THAT this resolution be shared with all 444 municipalities in Ontario for their consideration and adoption.

Results: Carried

Recorded Vote:

<u>Member of Council</u>	<u>In Favour</u>	<u>Opposed</u>
Mayor Gould	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Councillor Moreton	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Councillor Latimer	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Councillor Grant	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Councillor Manson	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>



Received March 12, 2024
C-2024-100

The Honorable Doug Ford
Premier of Ontario
Legislative Building, Queen's Park
Toronto, ON M7A 1A1

The Honorable Paul Calandra
Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing

Minister.mah@ontario.ca

DEVLIVERED VIA EMAIL

February 26, 2024

RE: Comprehensive Review of Social and Economic Prosperity

Dear Premier Ford,

Please be advised that at the Regular Council Meeting of February 26, 2024, the Township of Limerick Council passed the following motion, supporting the resolution from the Council of the Hanover regarding a Social and Economic Prosperity Review.

Motion023-2024

Moved by Councillor Jan MacKillican

Seconded by Councillor Grace Hamm

That Council direct staff to issue a letter of support for the Comprehensive Review of Social and Economic Prosperity.

CARRIED

If you have any questions regarding the above motion, please do not hesitate to contact me by phone or email at clerk@township.limerick.on.ca.

Best Regards,

Victoria Tisdale
Clerk-Treasurer
Township of Limerick

cc. Hon. Paul Calandra, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing
Ric Bresee – MPP, Hastings-Lennox and Addington
Association of Municipalities of Ontario
All Ontario Municipalities

Victoria Tisdale, Clerk Treasurer
clerk@township.limerick.on.ca
Telephone: 613-474-2863
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EST. 1792
Hastings
COUNTY

Nicole Ilcio, Deputy Clerk Treasurer
assistant@township.limerick.on.ca
Telephone: 613-474-2863
Fax: 613-474-0478

February 1, 2024

The Honourable Doug Ford
Premier of Ontario
Legislative Building, Queen's Park
Toronto, ON M7A 1A1

Via Email: premier@ontario.ca

Dear Premier Ford:

Re: Social and Economic Prosperity Review

Please be advised that the Council of the Town of Hanover adopted the following resolution at their meeting of January 15, 2024 regarding the above noted matter;

Moved by COUNCILLOR KOEBEL Seconded by COUNCILLOR HOCKING

Whereas current provincial-municipal fiscal arrangements are undermining Ontario's economic prosperity and quality of life;

Whereas nearly a third of municipal spending in Ontario is for services in areas of provincial responsibility and expenditures are outpacing provincial contributions by nearly \$4 billion a year;

Whereas municipal revenues, such as property taxes, do not grow with the economy or inflation;

Whereas unprecedented population and housing growth will require significant investments in municipal infrastructure;

Whereas municipalities are being asked to take on complex health and social challenges – like homelessness, supporting asylum seekers and addressing the mental health and addictions crises;

Whereas inflation, rising interest rates, and provincial policy decisions are sharply constraining municipal fiscal capacity;

Whereas property taxpayers – including people on fixed incomes and small businesses – can't afford to subsidize income re-distribution programs for those most in need;

Whereas the province can, and should, invest more in the prosperity of communities;

Whereas municipalities and the provincial government have a strong history of collaboration;

Therefore be it resolved that the Province of Ontario commit to undertaking with the Association of Municipalities of Ontario a comprehensive social and economic prosperity review to promote the stability and sustainability of municipal finances across Ontario;

And further that a copy of this motion be sent to the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing, and to the Association of Municipalities of Ontario.

CARRIED

Should you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact the undersigned.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Tanya Patterson".

Tanya Patterson
Deputy Clerk

/tp

cc: Hon. Steve Clark, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing
Honourable Rick Byers, MPP Bruce-Grey-Owen Sound
Association of Municipalities of Ontario
Ontario Municipalities



Town of
Kearney

Received March 13, 2024
C-2024-101

Website: <http://townofkearney.ca>
Phone: 705 636 7752
Fax: 705 636 0527

P.O. Box 38
8 Main Street
Kearney, Ontario
POA 1M0

March 13, 2024

Hon. Todd McCarthy
Minister of Public and
Business Service Delivery
5th Floor 777 Bay St.
Toronto, ON M7A 2J3
VIA EMAIL: Todd.McCarthy@pc.ola.org

Jim Cassimatis, BAO Interim
CEO/Registrar
100 Sheppard Avenue East,
Suite 500
Toronto ON M2N 6N5
VIA EMAIL: info@thebao.ca

MPP Graydon Smith
Constituency office
230 Manitoba St.
Bracebridge, ON P1L 2E1
VIA EMAIL: Graydon.Smith@pc.ola.org

Re: 9.1 Township of Puslinch Council Resolution 2024-003 regarding Cemetery Administration Management

Please be advised that the Council of the Corporation of the Town of Kearney, at its meeting held on March 7, 2024, considered the aforementioned topic and subsequent to discussion, the following was resolved:

Resolution 2024-82: Moved by: Councillor Sharer, Seconded by: Councillor Pateman

WHEREAS the Council of the Corporation of the Town of Kearney supports the Resolutions of Puslinch Council, Tay Township and Clearview Township regarding Cemetery Administration Management, that staff be directed to send a support resolution accordingly.

As per the above resolution, please accept a copy of this correspondence for your information and consideration.

Sincerely,

Cindy Filmore
Deputy Clerk

cc: Ontario Municipalities



Hon. Todd McCarthy
Minister of Public and
Business Service Delivery
5th Floor
777 Bay St.
Toronto, ON M7A 2J3
VIA EMAIL:

Todd.McCarthy@pc.ola.org

MPP Jill Dunlop
Unit 9
575 West St. S
Orillia, Ontario L3V 7N6
VIA EMAIL:
Jill.Dunlop@pc.ola.org

Jim Cassimatis, BAO Interim
CEO/Registrar
100 Sheppard Avenue East,
Suite 500
Toronto, ON M2N 6N5
VIA EMAIL:
info@thebao.ca

MPP Brian Saunderson
Suite 28
180 Parsons Rd.
Alliston, ON L9R 1E8
VIA EMAIL:
Brian.Saunderson@pc.ola.org

Township of Puslinch
7404 Wellington Road 34
Puslinch, ON N0B 2J0
www.puslinch.ca

February 22, 2024

RE 6.2 Clearview Township Support Resolution Cemetery Administration Management & 6.3 Tay Township Support Resolution Cemetery Administration Management Support

Please be advised that Township of Puslinch Council, at its meeting held on January 10, 2024 considered the aforementioned topic and subsequent to discussion, the following was resolved:

Resolution No. 2024-003: Moved by Councillor Hurst and
Seconded by Councillor Sepulis

That the Consent Agenda item 6.2 and 6.3 listed for January 10, 2023 Council meeting be received for information; and

Whereas Puslinch Council supports the Resolutions from Tay Township and Clearview Township regarding Cemetery Administration Management, that staff be directed to send a support resolution accordingly.

CARRIED



As per the above resolution, please accept a copy of this correspondence for your information and consideration.

Sincerely,

Justine Brotherston
Municipal Clerk

CC: Ontario Municipalities



CLEARVIEW
TOWNSHIP

Clerk's Department
Township of Clearview
Box 200, 217 Gideon Street
Stayner, Ontario L0M 1S0
clerks@clearview.ca | www.clearview.ca
Phone: 705-428-6230

December 12, 2023

File: C00.2023

Hon. Todd McCarthy
Ministry of Public and Business Service Delivery
777 Bay Street, 5th Floor
Toronto ON M5B 2H7

Sent by Email

RE: Cemetery Transfer/Abandonment Administration & Management Support

Please be advised that Council of the Township of Clearview, at its meeting held on December 11, 2023, passed a resolution regarding Cemetery Transfer/Abandonment Administration & Management Support as follows:

Moved by Councillor Walker, Seconded by Councillor Broderick, Whereas under the Funeral, Burial and Cremation Services Act, 2002 (FBCSA), when a cemetery is declared abandoned by a judge of the Superior Court Justice, the local municipality within whose geographic boundaries the land of the cemetery is located, becomes the owner of the cemetery with all the rights and obligations in respect of the cemetery and the assets, trust funds and trust accounts related to it that the previous owner or operator possessed;

And Whereas over the last decade, there has been an increase in the number of churches and local cemetery boards initiating processes to transfer ownership or abandon their owned and operated cemeteries to the local municipality due to such issues as high maintenance costs, inaccuracy of records, lack of financial and human resources to effectively operate and maintain the cemetery, increased regulatory processes regarding training, selling of interment rights, financial operation of the care and maintenance fund, etc.;

And Whereas municipalities experience the same issues and pressures that churches and local boards experience with the operation and maintenance of cemeteries within its jurisdiction, and additional transfers of cemetery lands only compound the burden on municipal taxpayers;

And Whereas cemeteries are important infrastructure where the reasonable costs for interment rights, burials, monument foundations, corner stones and administration charges do not sufficiently support the general operation of cemeteries;

And Whereas the interest earned from the care and maintenance fund(s) of a cemetery do not provide adequate funding to maintain the cemetery with the rising costs of lawn and turf maintenance contracts and monument restoration;

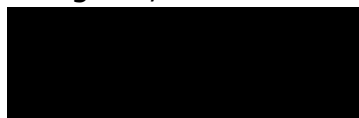
Now Therefore Be It Resolved that Council of the Township of Clearview requests that the Province through the Ministry of Public and Business Service Delivery and the Bereavement Authority of Ontario (BAO) consider the following to assist municipalities in this growing concern of cemetery transfers:

- Amend the Funeral, Burial and Cremation Services Act, 2002 (FBCSA), to have the Province, through the BAO, identified as the default owner and operator of a cemetery when it is abandoned;
- Provide annual funding (based on the number of cemeteries a municipality owns and operates) to municipalities to assist with the maintenance of inactive and active cemeteries; Page 6 of 7
- Provide free training opportunities for municipalities regarding cemetery administration; and,
- Investigate and support the design of universal cemetery software for use by municipal cemetery operators that can be offered at an affordable cost.

And that this resolution be circulated to the Hon. Todd McCarthy, Ministry of Public and Business Service Delivery, Jim Cassimatis, BAO Interim CEO/Registrar, MPP Brian Saunderson and all Ontario municipalities. Motion Carried.

For reference, please find attached the Staff Report LS-032-2023 that provides background for the above resolution. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact the undersigned.

Regards,



Sasha HelmKay-Playter, B.A., Dipl. M.A., AOMC
Clerk/Director of Legislative Services

cc: Jim Cassimatis, BAO Interim CEO/Registrar
MPP Simcoe Grey, Brian Saunderson
Ontario Municipalities

To: Mayor and Council

From: Sasha Helmkey, Clerk/Director of Legislative Services

Date: December 11, 2023

Subject: Report # LS-032-2023 – Cemetery Transfer/Abandonment Administration & Management Support

Recommendation

Be It Resolved that Council of the Township of Clearview hereby receives Report LS-032-2023 (Cemetery Transfer/Abandonment Administration & Management Support) dated December 11, 2023; and,

Whereas under the Funeral, Burial and Cremation Services Act, 2002 (FBCSA), when a cemetery is declared abandoned by a judge of the Superior Court Justice, the local municipality within whose geographic boundaries the land of the cemetery is located, becomes the owner of the cemetery with all the rights and obligations in respect of the cemetery and the assets, trust funds and trust accounts related to it that the previous owner or operator possessed;

And Whereas over the last decade, there has been an increase in the number of churches and local cemetery boards initiating processes to transfer ownership or abandon their owned and operated cemeteries to the local municipality due to such issues as high maintenance costs, inaccuracy of records, lack of financial and human resources to effectively operate and maintain the cemetery, increased regulatory processes regarding training, selling of interment rights, financial operation of the care and maintenance fund, etc.;

And Whereas municipalities experience the same issues and pressures that churches and local boards experience with the operation and maintenance of cemeteries within its jurisdiction, and additional transfers of cemetery lands only compound the burden on municipal taxpayers;

And Whereas cemeteries are important infrastructure where the reasonable costs for interment rights, burials, monument foundations, corner stones and administration charges do not sufficiently support the general operation of cemeteries;

And Whereas the interest earned from the care and maintenance fund(s) of a cemetery do not provide adequate funding to maintain the cemetery with the rising costs of lawn and turf maintenance contracts and monument restoration;

Now Therefore Be It Resolved that Council of the Township of Clearview requests that the Province through the Ministry of Public and Business Service Delivery and the Bereavement Authority of Ontario (BAO) consider the following to assist municipalities in this growing concern of cemetery transfers:

- Amend the Funeral, Burial and Cremation Services Act, 2002 (FBCSA), to have the Province, through the BAO, identified as the default owner and operator of a cemetery when it is abandoned;
- Provide annual funding (based on the number of cemeteries a municipality owns and operates) to municipalities to assist with the maintenance of inactive and active cemeteries;
- Provide free training opportunities for municipalities regarding cemetery administration; and,
- Investigate and support the design of universal cemetery software for use by municipal cemetery operators that can be offered at an affordable cost.

And that this resolution be circulated to the Hon. Todd McCarthy, Ministry of Public and Business Service Delivery, Jim Cassimatis, BAO Interim CEO/Registrar, MPP Brian Saunderson and all Ontario municipalities.

Background

Under the Funeral, Burial and Cremation Services Act, 2002 (FBCSA), when a cemetery is declared abandoned by a judge of the Superior Court Justice, the local municipality within whose geographic boundaries the land of the cemetery is located, becomes the owner of the cemetery with all the rights and obligations in respect of the cemetery and the assets, trust funds and trust accounts related to it that the previous owner or operator possessed.

Over the last decade there appears to be a trend where cemeteries in Ontario are being transferred, whether through abandonment or a mutually agreed upon transfer, to the care and control of municipalities. This is often seen when there is a breakdown in existing cemetery boards and/or when churches cease operations. For many existing private cemetery boards their board members and volunteers are aging and are unable to assist with the operations and maintenance of the cemetery any longer. Finding new members proves to be difficult for these boards to continue. In addition to aging board members, there are other issues that are contributing to the increase in cemetery transfers:

- high maintenance costs
- inaccuracy of records
- lack of financial and human resources to effectively operate and maintain the cemetery

- increased regulatory processes that require ongoing training for selling of interment rights, and the financial operation of the care and maintenance fund, etc.

Township Owned Cemeteries

The Township of Clearview currently owns and operates nine (9) cemeteries within its geographic boundaries. Out of these nine cemeteries, four (4) are considered active meaning that there are still interment rights to be sold, or burials to take place. Below is a chart outlining these cemeteries and their status:

Cemetery Name	Address	Status
Batteau Hill Cemetery	2670 County Road 124, Duntroon	Inactive
Bethel Union Cemetery	2249 Creemore Avenue, New Lowell	Inactive
Dunedin Union Cemetery	9 Turkeyroost Lane, Dunedin	Active
Duntroon Pioneer Cemetery	2870 County Road 124, Duntroon	Inactive
Lavender Cemetery	827103 Mulmur/Nottawasaga Townline, Creemore	Active
Old Zion Presbyterian Church Cemetery	6130 Highway 26, Sunnidale Corners	Inactive
Second Line Nottawasaga Cemetery	2279 County Road 42, Stayner	Active
Stayner Union Cemetery	7661 Highway 26, Stayner	Active
Zion Presbyterian Church Cemetery	12358 County Road 10, Sunnidale Corners	Inactive

For the Dunedin and Stayner Union Cemetery, the Township looks after the maintenance and burials through a third-party contractor. The maintenance and burials for the Lavender Cemetery are conducted through the Board. For the Second Line Nottawasaga Cemetery all the interment rights have been sold, but there remains one burial to be completed. The cost to maintain an active cemetery is expensive. Although burial costs and the installation of markers, etc. are cost recovery through the purchaser, grounds maintenance is not.

Inactive cemeteries still require consistent grounds maintenance, which includes any monument restoration for health and safety, and record searches for the public register.

Comments and Analysis

When analyzing the number of cemeteries that Clearview Township currently owns and operates, maintenance and administration is a large undertaking. To add any additional cemeteries by way of transfer or abandonment will only compound the issues the Township is already facing. In the past year, the Township has been approached by two separate entities regarding possible cemetery transfers. When a board or cemetery transfers ownership to the municipality, the issues are transferred with it. Municipalities are not immune to the same concerns. It becomes a strain on municipal resources, financially, administratively, and operationally.

Administrative Impact

From an administrative perspective the management of four active cemeteries is both time consuming and complex. No interment is the same, and providing good customer service takes time especially for those making arrangements while also dealing with grief. Administrative tasks include but are not limited to: interment right sales and mapping, burial contracts and scheduling, monument placement, historical record searches, plot and monument staking, fees and charges review, family transfers of interment rights and annual reporting to the Bereavement Authority of Ontario (BAO).

- **Incomplete records**

Often the records accepted by the Township from a dissolved cemetery board or church are incomplete and disorganized. This is no fault of the previous board members, as they are also often operating with limited resources. However, it does make it difficult to manage the cemetery post-transfer when records are sparse. Understanding which plots are occupied and by who is critical to the sound management of a cemetery. Unfortunately, this is not made possible in all cases because of incomplete records. In addition, records received during a transfer usually are maintained under different records management standards and are often organized and named inconsistently. Adaptation to Township records keeping practices takes time.

- **Lack of human resources**

Cemetery management is a highly regulated professional field, with the responsibility of which is often placed on public sector employees who may have limited knowledge of cemeteries in general. With reduced resources within municipalities especially rural ones, the management of cemeteries often becomes a secondary responsibility to another position. There is also a lack of affordable training available for municipal employees who are required to abide by regulations set out by the FBCSA and the BAO.

- **Increased regulatory processes**

Annual reporting requirements of the BAO can be extensive and complex. This includes monitoring the number of interments, the transfers to the Care and Maintenance Fund (C&M), and how the C&M fund can be used. There are also regulations pertaining to maintaining a public register, how sales are to be conducted and strict guidelines on Cemetery By-law approvals, and expansions including the erection of columbaria structures.

- **Inconsistent cemetery regulations**

Cemeteries can have many different regulations related to plot size, number of burials allowed in a given plot, monument size, what types of flowers/shrubs are allowed to be installed near a headstone etc. The transfer of different cemeteries having inconsistent regulations can make it difficult to adapt management practices in order to maintain original cemetery operational standards.

Operational Impact

Similarly, from an operational perspective the grounds maintenance of cemeteries, whether active or inactive, is both time consuming and complex. A key issue when analyzing the maintenance component of cemetery management is the lack of financial resources to support the operation. Cemetery maintenance includes, but is not limited to: grass cutting (whipper snipping around monuments), tree and shrub maintenance, monument and corner stone maintenance, water pipe and washroom monitoring, and general upkeep of cemetery grounds (removal of debris, etc.).

- **High maintenance costs**

As with many services, there are rising costs to contend with. Municipalities have adopted different models to address the maintenance of such, with third party contractors being commonly used or it becomes the responsibility of an internal department such as Parks & Recreation. Regardless the model, the costs have increased significantly over the last decade with equipment purchases/upgrades, insurance requirements for third-party contractors, and the time it takes to cut the grass and whipper snip around monuments. To put it into perspective, the Stayner Union Cemetery with the expansion is 25 acres with monuments to manoeuvre around during ground care. Other considerations for maintenance includes monument restoration and ensuring that they are not deteriorated to the point where they are unsafe. This is important for older cemeteries where restoration hasn't been provided in the past and there are many deteriorating monuments.

- **Cost of cemetery management software**

Cemetery Management Software can help municipalities manage cemetery records, including plot sale contracts, interment rights certificates, and regulatory reporting.

However, these software solutions are often expensive and require a large amount of staff time to implement especially with incomplete data and records. These software solutions range in price from \$5,000 to \$100,000 with annual maintenance costs. This investment in software can be a large budget request and one that would need to be supported from taxation with the limited funds in cemetery general accounts.

- **Inadequate Care and Maintenance funds**

When the Funeral, Burial and Cremation Services Act, 2002 (FBCSA) was enacted, it stipulated that a care and maintenance fund for a cemetery shall be established. A cemetery operator is required to make contributions to the fund from the sale of in-ground graves, crypts, tombs, niches, scattering rights and monument installation. The contribution is prescribed under the FBCSA and differs dependant on the interment type. The idea is that the fund (income earned from the fund - interest) pays for maintenance costs after a cemetery has stopped making sales. In reality, this concept does not produce enough funds to maintain a cemetery. Looking at the Stayner Union Cemetery as an example, for the very basics (grass cutting and whipper snipping) the interest from the care and maintenance fund does not provide enough monies to maintain the cemetery for the 7 months it's required. In addition, the care and maintenance fund is also to be utilized for the stabilization, maintenance and security of markers. Cemeteries are not self funding, and maintenance of such is becoming a larger budget concern.

Support Request

Cemetery transfers and abandonments have been an ongoing concern for Clearview Township for many years. When you look at the large geography of the Township there are many cemeteries within the boundaries that have the potential to be transferred. To gauge the concern of other municipalities on this issue, staff addressed it at a Simcoe County Clerks group discussion. Many neighbouring municipalities expressed that they were dealing with the same issues and have also been approached by different external entities on possible transfers.

As result of the discussion, it was agreed that to assist with the real concerns with transfers and abandonments of cemeteries, it's vital that the Province provide assistance to adequately support this infrastructure. Support can be provided in many different forms, with staff making the following recommendations for the Ministry of Public and Business Service Delivery and the BAO:

- Amend the Funeral, Burial and Cremation Services Act, 2002 (FBCSA), to have the Province, through the BAO, identified as the default owner and operator of a cemetery when it is abandoned;

- Provide annual funding (based on the number of cemeteries a municipality owns and operates) to municipalities to assist with the maintenance of inactive and active cemeteries;
- Provide free training opportunities for municipalities regarding cemetery administration; and,
- Investigate and support the design of universal cemetery software for use by municipal cemetery operators that can be offered at an affordable cost.

There is not one solution to solve all the issues, but at the very least it's important to identify the concerns and have open and real discussions at the provincial level on what support can be provided.

Clearview's Strategic Plan

The above initiative supports the following strategic pillars:

- Governance

Financial Implications

It is difficult to identify an exact dollar amount that can be attributed to a cemetery transfer/abandonment to the municipality. Every transfer is different and depends on a multitude of factors beginning with the cemetery status (active/inactive), acreage, care and maintenance fund (if any), maintenance of records, etc. What is being recommended by staff by way of support from the province is not meant to erase the costs entirely, but rather, to alleviate the financial burden in some capacity.

Report Appendices

Not applicable.

Approvals

Submitted by:	Sasha HelmKay, B.A., Dipl. M.A., AOMC, Clerk/Director of Legislative Services
Reviewed by:	Krista Pascoe, Deputy Clerk
Financial Implications Reviewed by:	Kelly McDonald, Treasurer
Approved by:	John Ferguson, CAO

TAY TOWNSHIP

450 Park Street
PO Box 100
Victoria Harbour, Ontario
L0K 2A0



December 21, 2023

Hon. Todd McCarthy
Minister of Public and Business Service Delivery
5th Floor
777 Bay St.
Toronto, ON M7A 2J3

sent via email Todd.McCarthy@pc.ola.org

Dear Hon. Todd McCarthy,

Re: Provincial Cemetery Management Support Request – Tay Township

Tay Township Council passed the following resolution during the December 20, 2023 Council Meeting regarding the Provincial Cemetery Management Support Request:

Whereas under the Funeral, Burial and Cremation Services Act, 2002 (FBCSA), when a cemetery is declared abandoned by a judge of the Superior Court Justice, the local municipality within whose geographic boundaries the land of the cemetery is located, becomes the owner of the cemetery with all the rights and obligations in respect of the cemetery and the assets, trust funds and trust accounts related to it that the previous owner or operator possessed;

And Whereas over the last decade, there has been an increase in the number of churches and local cemetery boards initiating processes to transfer ownership or abandon their owned and operated cemeteries to the local municipality due to such issues as high maintenance costs, inaccuracy of records, lack of financial and human resources to effectively operate and maintain the cemetery, increased regulatory processes regarding training, selling of interment rights, financial operation of the care and maintenance fund, etc.;

And Whereas municipalities experience the same issues and pressures that churches and local boards experience with the operation and maintenance of cemeteries within its jurisdiction, and additional transfers of cemetery lands only compound the burden on municipal taxpayers;

And Whereas cemeteries are important infrastructure where the reasonable costs for interment rights, burials, monument foundations, corner stones and administration charges do not sufficiently support the general operation of cemeteries;

TAY TOWNSHIP

450 Park Street
PO Box 100
Victoria Harbour, Ontario
L0K 2A0



And Whereas the interest earned from the care and maintenance fund(s) of a cemetery do not provide adequate funding to maintain the cemetery with the rising costs of lawn and turf maintenance contracts and monument restoration;

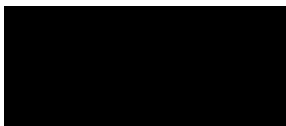
Now Therefore Be It Resolved that Council of the Township of Tay requests that the Province through the Ministry of Public and Business Service Delivery and the Bereavement Authority of Ontario (BAO) consider the following to assist municipalities in this growing concern of cemetery transfers:

- Amending the Funeral, Burial and Cremation Services Act, 2002 (FBCSA), to have the Province, through the BAO, identified as the default owner and operator of a cemetery when it is abandoned;
- Provide annual funding (based on the number of cemeteries a municipality owns and operates) to municipalities to assist with the maintenance of inactive and active cemeteries;
- Provide free training opportunities for municipalities regarding cemetery administration; and,
- Investigate and support the design of universal cemetery software for use by municipal cemetery operators that can be offered at an affordable cost;

And that this resolution be circulated to the Hon. Todd McCarthy, Ministry of Public and Business Service Delivery, Jim Cassimatis, BAO Interim CEO/Registrar, MPP Jill Dunlop and all Ontario municipalities.

Sent on behalf of Tay Township Council.

Yours truly,



Katelyn Johns, MPPA
Municipal Clerk

Cc: Jim Cassimatis, BAO Interim CEO/Registrar, Hon. Jill Dunlop, Minister of Colleges and Universities/MPP, and all Ontario municipalities.



Received March 13, 2024
C-2024-102

374028 6TH LINE • AMARANTH ON • L9W 0M6

March 12, 2024

Hon. Paul Calandra
Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing

Sent by email to: Paul.Calandra@pc.ola.org

Re: Operational Budget Funding

At its regular meeting of Council held on March 6, 2024, the Township of Amaranth Council passed the following resolution.

Resolution #: 4

Moved by: G Little

Seconded by: A. Stirk

Whereas all Ontario municipalities are prohibited from running budget deficits for operating purposes, and;

Whereas all Ontario municipalities have similar pressures with respect to aging infrastructure and operating costs for policing, and;

Whereas the City of Toronto has recently received Provincial funding to cover a \$1.2 billion dollar operating shortfall and approximately \$12 million in Federal and Provincial funding for their Police operating budget, and;

Whereas the City of Toronto has the lowest tax rates in the Province, approximately 40% less than the average Dufferin rural municipal tax rate.

Be it Resolved That the Township of Amaranth call on the Province of Ontario to treat all municipalities fairly and provide equivalent representative operational budget funding amounts to all Ontario municipalities.

CARRIED

Please do not hesitate to contact the office if you require any further information on this matter.

Yours truly,

Nicole Martin, Dipl. M.A.
CAO/Clerk
C: Premier of Ontario; AMO; Ontario Municipalities



Received March 14, 2024
C-2024-103

March 13th, 2024

Premier's Office
Room 281
Legislative Building, Queen's Park
Toronto, ON M7A 1A1

Ministry of Labour, Immigration, Training and Skills Development
14th Floor
400 University Ave
Toronto, ON M7A 1T7

Ministry of Legislative Affairs
Main Legislative Building
Room 223
111 Wellesley St. W
Toronto, ON M7A 1A8

ATTENTION: Hon. Doug Ford, Hon. David Piccini, & Hon. Paul Calandra

Dear Premier Ford, Hon. David Piccini, & Hon. Paul Calandra:

RE: Resolution – Expanding the Life of Fire Apparatus

Please be advised that the Council of the Corporation of the Township of Lanark Highlands passed the following resolution at their regular meeting held March 13th, 2024:

Moved by Councillor Kelso

Seconded by Councillor Closs

THAT, the Council of the Township of Lanark Highlands supports the resolution from the Village of Merrickville Wolford regarding Expanding the Life of Fire Apparatus;

AND THAT, this resolution be sent to Premier Doug Ford, the Honourable David Piccini, Minister of Labour, Immigration, Training and Skills Development, Paul Calandra, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing;



AND FURTHER THAT, this resolution be circulated to all Ontario municipalities, the Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM), the Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO) and the Eastern Ontario Warden's Caucus (EOWC).

Resolved

Sincerely,

Amanda Noël,
Clerk/Acting CAO

Encls.

c.c. All Ontario Municipalities
Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM)
Eastern Ontario Warden's Caucus (EOWC)
Association of Municipalities



Village of Merrickville Wolford

317 Brock Street W PO Box 340
Merrickville, ON K0G 1N0
T: 613-269-4791
W: Merrickville-wolford.ca

February 16, 2024

The Honourable Doug Ford
Premier of Ontario
premier@ontario.ca

Re: Expanding the Life of Fire Apparatus

Please be advised that the Council of the Corporation of the Village of Merrickville-Wolford, at its regular meeting on February 12th, 2024, passed the following motion endorsing the resolution from Prince Edward County regarding Expanding the Life of Fire Apparatus.

Resolution #: R-21-12-02-24

Moved by: Deputy Mayor Barr

Seconded by: Councillor Ireland

THAT the Council of the Corporation of the Village of Merrickville-Wolford endorse the resolution received from Prince Edward County regarding support for the Province to expand the life span of fire apparatus, specifically pertaining to the replacement of fire trucks due to insurance requirements Fire Underwriters Survey requesting the creation of a new community fire-protection and fire prevention insurance system that does not put all municipalities under the same umbrella, with distinct categories for rural and urban municipalities.

Carried.

If you have any questions regarding the above resolution, please do not hesitate to contact me by email at clerk@merrickville-wolford.ca.

Your truly,

Julia McCaugherty-Jansman
Clerk



From the Office of the Clerk
The Corporation of the County of Prince Edward
T: 613.476.2148 x 1021 | F: 613.476.5727
clerks@pecounty.on.ca | www.thecounty.ca

January 22, 2024

Please be advised that during the regular Council meeting of January 16, 2024 the following motion regarding support for the Province to expand the life span of fire apparatus, specifically pertaining to the replacement of fire trucks due to insurance requirements was carried:

RESOLUTION NO. 2024-46

DATE: January 16, 2024

MOVED BY: Councillor Nieman

SECONDED BY: Councillor Branderhorst

WHEREAS By-Law 3256-2013, being a By-Law to Establish, Maintain, and Operate a Fire Department established service level standards for the Corporation of the County of Prince Edward Fire Department;

AND WHEREAS apparatus and equipment are directly tied to the delivery of fire protection services authorized by Council in By-Law 3256-2013, and a safe, reliable and diverse fleet is required to serve operational needs;

AND WHEREAS fire Apparatus is governed by industry best practices, the application of law and recognized industry partners, including the Ontario Fire Service Section 21 Guidance Notes, National Fire Protection Association Standards, The Occupational Health and Safety Act, and Fire Underwriters Survey (FUS);

AND WHEREAS Fire Underwriters Survey (FUS) is a provider of data, underwriting, risk management and legal/regulatory services focusing on community fire-protection and fire prevention systems in Canada, establishing apparatus replacement schedules based on safety and risk mitigation practices;

AND WHEREAS on November 16, 2023, Council, received report FD-06-2023 regarding asset Management - Fire Apparatus Fleet Report and noted the budgetary pressures of meeting FUS replacement schedules;

AND WHEREAS no provincial funding is available for new fire trucks, yet, small and rural municipalities must meet the same standards set by FUS as larger municipalities for fire equipment, including additional pressure to move fire trucks out when they reach a specific age, even though they can still meet the safety regulations;



From the Office of the Clerk
The Corporation of the County of Prince Edward
T: 613.476.2148 x 1021 | F: 613.476.5727
clerks@pecounty.on.ca | www.thecounty.ca

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Council of the Corporation of Prince Edward County direct the Mayor to draft a letter to MPP Minister Todd Smith requesting a meeting to discuss the life span of fire apparatus, specifically pertaining to the replacement of fire trucks due to insurance requirements; and

THAT the Mayor draft a letter to FUS requesting the creation of a new community fire-protection and fire prevention insurance system that does not put all municipalities under the same umbrella, with distinct categories for rural and urban municipalities;

THAT this resolution be sent to Premier Doug Ford, the Honourable David Piccini, Minister of Labour, Immigration, Training and Skills Development, Paul Calandra, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing requesting a response on this matter within 30 days of receipt; and

THAT this resolution be shared with all 444 municipalities in Ontario, The Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM), The Association of Municipalities Ontario (AMO), and The Eastern Ontario Wardens' Caucus (EOWC).

CARRIED

Yours truly,



Catalina Blumenberg, **CLERK**

cc: Mayor Steve Ferguson, Councillor Nieman, Councillor Branderhorst, Marcia Wallace, CAO and Fire Chief Chad Brown





Received March 14, 2024
C-2024-104

Hon. David Piccini
Minister of Labour,
Immigration, Training and
Skills Development
117 Peter St.
Port Hope, ON L1A 1C5
VIA EMAIL:
David.Piccini@pc.ola.org

Hon. Vic Fedeli
219 Main St. E
North Bay, ON P1B 1B2
VIA EMAIL:
Vic.Fedeli@pc.ola.org

Township of Puslinch
7404 Wellington Road 34
Puslinch, ON N0B 2J0
www.puslinch.ca

March 14, 2024

Association of Ontario Road
Supervisors (AORS)
VIA EMAIL:
Email: admin@aors.on.ca

Association of Municipalities
of Ontario (AMO)
VIA EMAIL:
amo@amo.on.ca

RE: 6.6 Municipality of Powassan resolution regarding Association of Ontario Roads Supervisors Training

Please be advised that Township of Puslinch Council, at its meeting held on February 28, 2024 considered the aforementioned topic and subsequent to discussion, the following was resolved:

Resolution No. 2024-066:

Moved by Councillor Bailey and
Seconded by Councillor Sepulis

That the Consent Agenda item 6.1.6 and 6.6 listed for FEBRUARY 28, 2024 Council meeting be received for information; and

Whereas the Township recognizes that public works departments are responsible for a number of skilled tasks such as proper forestry techniques, welding and metal fabrication, heavy equipment mechanics, and general carpentry skills;

That The Township of Puslinch Council supports the resolution by the Municipality of Powassan resolution regarding the Association of Ontario Roads Supervisors Training and in addition, it would be ideal to consider all aspects of a public works department when advocating for government funded training opportunities.



CARRIED

As per the above resolution, please accept a copy of this correspondence for your information and consideration.

Sincerely,

Justine Brotherston
Municipal Clerk

February 13, 2024

The Honourable David Piccini
Minister of Labour, Immigration, Training and Skills Development
Minister.MLITSD@ontario.ca

DELIVERED VIA EMAIL

RE: Municipal Equipment Operator Course

Dear Minister Piccini,

Please be advised that at the Regular Council Meeting of February 6, 2024, the council of the Municipality of Powassan passed the following resolution:

WHEREAS municipal public works departments from across the Province of Ontario provide invaluable services to our communities ensuring the health and safety of all residents;

AND WHEREAS, if it was not for our municipal public works employees from across the Province of Ontario maintaining our public roads systems, our communities would not be able to function as emergency personnel could not respond to calls, school buses could not get our children to school, residents would not be able to get to work, school or appointments and many more basic functions would not be able to happen;

AND WHEREAS, municipal public works departments are already feeling the impacts of a labour shortage, which will only be exasperated over the next three to five years, which will cause levels of service municipalities are able to provide to ensure the health and safety of our residents to decrease;

AND WHEREAS, there is currently no provincial-wide course that properly trains potential municipal public works employees, specifically relating to municipal heavy equipment.

THEREFORE, IT BE RESOLVED, that the Municipality of Powassan supports the work of the Association of Ontario Road Supervisors to develop a Municipal Equipment Operator Course to address this issue;

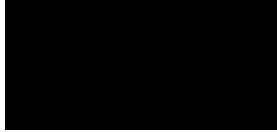
AND THAT, the Council of the Municipality of Powassan calls on the Province of Ontario's Ministry of Labour, Training, Immigration and Skilled Trades to fully fund the Municipal Equipment Operator

Course in 2024 through the Skills Development Fund;

AND THAT, a copy of this resolution be sent to the Minister of Labour, Training, Immigration and Skilled Trades David Piccini, Municipality of Powassan's Member of Provincial Parliament Honourable Vic Fedeli, and the Association of Ontario Road Supervisors.

If you have any questions regarding Resolution 2024-43, please feel free to contact me.

Sincerely,



Allison Quinn
Clerk
Municipality of Powassan

Cc: Municipality of Powassan's Member of Provincial Parliament Honourable Vic Fedeli
Association of Ontario Road Supervisors
AMO
All Municipalities in Ontario

Received March 15, 2024
C-2024-105

March 14, 2024

Re: Item for Discussion – Resolution of Support Regarding Request to the Province of Ontario for New Provincial-Municipal Fiscal Framework

At its meeting of March 13, 2024, the Council of the Corporation of the Town of Bracebridge ratified motion #24-GC-053, regarding Resolution of Support Regarding Request to the Province of Ontario for New Provincial-Municipal Fiscal Framework, as follows:

“WHEREAS the current provincial-municipal fiscal arrangements are undermining Ontario’s economic prosperity and quality of life;

AND WHEREAS nearly a third of municipal spending in Ontario is for services in areas of provincial responsibility and expenditures are outpacing provincial contributions by nearly \$4 billion a year;

AND WHEREAS municipal revenues, such as property taxes, do not grow with the economy or inflation;

AND WHEREAS unprecedented population and housing growth will require significant investments in municipal infrastructure;

AND WHEREAS municipalities are being asked to take on complex health and social challenges – like homelessness, supporting asylum seekers and addressing the mental health and addictions crises;

AND WHEREAS inflation, rising interest rates, and provincial policy decisions are sharply constraining municipal fiscal capacity;

AND WHEREAS property taxpayers – including people on fixed incomes and small businesses – can’t afford to subsidize income re-distribution programs for those most in need;

AND WHEREAS the province can, and should, invest more in the prosperity of communities;

AND WHEREAS municipalities and the provincial government have a strong history of collaboration;

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Town of Bracebridge calls on the Province of Ontario commit to undertaking, with the Association of Municipalities of Ontario, a comprehensive social and economic prosperity review to promote the stability and sustainability of municipal finances across Ontario;

1000 Taylor Court
Bracebridge, ON
P1L 1R6 Canada

AND FURTHER THAT a copy of this motion be sent to the Premier of Ontario; the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing; the Minister of Finance; the Local Member of Provincial Parliament; the Association of Municipalities of Ontario; the Association of Municipal Managers, Clerks and Treasurers of Ontario (AMCTO); the Muskoka and Area Indigenous Leadership Table (MAILT); and all Ontario Municipalities.”

In accordance with Council's direction, I am forwarding you a copy of the resolution for your reference.

Please do not hesitate to contact me if I can provide any additional clarification in this regard.

Yours truly,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'L. McDonald', written in a cursive style.

Lori McDonald
Director of Corporate Services/Clerk